

**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular session at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25, 2003, in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Lieu, McIntyre, Mauno, Nowatka, Scotto, Witkowsky, and Mayor Walker.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Assistant City Manager Giordano, City Attorney Fellows, City Clerk Herbers, and other staff representatives.

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Agenda Item 17 was considered out of order at this time.

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 17A) Conference with Labor Negotiator; 17B) Public Employee Performance Evaluation; 17C) Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation; and 17D) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54957.6, 54957, 54956.9(a), and 54956.8.

The Council reconvened in Council Chambers at 7:12 p.m. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

**2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Firefighter Paul Vuoso.

Councilmember Nowatka gave the non-sectarian invocation for the meeting.

**3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING**

**MOTION:** Councilmember McIntyre moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lieu, and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**MOTION:** Councilmember McIntyre moved that after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title to any resolution or ordinance on the meeting agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lieu and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS**

Item 7C was deferred to the December 2, 2003 meeting.

**5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

City Clerk Herbers announced that the City Clerk's office was accepting applications for seats on various commissions until 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 7, 2004. Applications available on the City of Torrance website or by calling the City Clerk's office at 618-2870.

**6. COMMUNITY MATTERS**

**6A. RECOGNITION OF TORRANCE FIRE DEPARTMENT STRIKE TEAMS**

Torrance Fire Department strike teams were recognized for their participation in fighting the Southern California wildfires as follows: Battalion Chief Dennis Coker, Battalion Chief Bill Samp, Captain Ron Bone, Captain Randy Brooks, Captain Jon Henderson, Captain Scott Kahn, Captain Tim Marcy, Captain John Nash, Captain Mike Simmons, Engineer Carl Besanceney, Firefighter Tim Cummings, Firefighter John Deyoe, Firefighter Don Griffin, Engineer Tony Hocker, Engineer Tim McAtee, Firefighter Paul Masotto, Firefighter Roco Mendez, Firefighter Arnold Paner, Firefighter Paul Sawai, Engineer Scott Schneider, Firefighter Jeff Shinkle, Firefighter Paul Vuoso, Engineer Scott Wallevand, and Firefighter Bob Yrogoyen.

Battalion Chief Bill Samp reported on his strike team's assignment in Moorpark and Stevenson Ranch, and Captain Mike Simmons shared slides of his strike team in action in San Diego County.

**7. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**7A. APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FOR WELL NOS. 7 AND 8 NANOFILTRATION WATER TREATMENT FACILITY**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council:

- 1) Accept and file Colored Water Treatment Technologies and Costs, Conceptual Study dated September 23, 2003, by CH2MHill;
- 2) Authorize staff to submit an application for Metropolitan Water District's Local Resources Program Funding; and
- 3) Authorize staff to develop a funding strategy for Well No. 7 (Border Avenue at Plaza Del Amo) and Well No. 8 (Abalone Avenue at 223<sup>rd</sup> Street) Nanofiltration Water Treatment Facility Project.

**7B. INVESTMENT REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2003**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Treasurer** that City Council accept and file the monthly investment report for the month of October 2003.

**7C. SUB-LEASE AND IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT HI-SHEAR CORPORATION**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Land Management Team** that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to a Sub-Lease and Improvement Agreement by and between Hi-Shear Corporation (Lessee) and La Caze Development Company (Sub-Lessee).

Considered separately, deferred to December 2, 2003.

**7D. CHANGE ORDER RE 234<sup>TH</sup> STREET CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Public Works Director** that City Council:

- 1) Authorize a change order in the amount of \$45,775 to the contract with Beador Construction Company, Inc. (C2003-094) for additional street and

- alley construction in conjunction with the 234<sup>th</sup> Street Channel Improvement Project, Phase 2, Ladeene Avenue to Evalyn Avenue, I-63; and
- 2) Authorize the Public Works Director to execute said change order.

**7E. PURCHASE OF DATA NETWORK EQUIPMENT**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Information Technology Director** that City Council approve the appropriation of \$11,000 from the Data Communications Replacement Fund to be used to purchase a Cisco 2621 Router in the amount not-to-exceed \$11,000.

**MOTION:** Member Mauno moved to approve Consent Calendar Items 7A, 7B, 7D & 7E. The motion was seconded by Member Witkowski and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Consent Calendar Item 7C was considered out of order at this time.

**7C. SUB-LEASE AND IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT HI-SHEAR CORPORATION**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Land Management Team** that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to a Sub-Lease and Improvement Agreement by and between Hi-Shear Corporation (Lessee) and La Caze Development Company (Sub-Lessee).

Councilmember Nowatka requested that this item be deferred for one week pending the receipt of additional information. Hearing no objection, Mayor Walker so ordered.

**10. PUBLIC SAFETY**

**10A. CONTRACT WITH L.A. COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR DNA SENIOR CRIMINALIST**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Chief of Police** that City Council approve, on the three-year trial basis, a contractual agreement with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to dedicate a DNA Senior Criminalist to handle DNA evidence from Torrance criminal cases, in the amount of \$120,242 per year.

Police Captain John Neu reported that staff was recommending that the City enter into a contract with the L.A. County Sheriff's Department for one DNA Senior Criminalist to work exclusively on Torrance cases on a three-year trial basis. He stated that having a full-time criminalist would greatly enhance the Department's ability to solve "cold cases," as well as other crimes as they occur, noting that there are currently 34 unsolved homicides in Torrance. He indicated that the position would be funded by the freezing of one unfilled Officer position in the Detective Division.

Councilmember Lieu voiced support for the proposal and congratulated the Police Department on their recent success in solving a cold case.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Witkowski moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Scotto and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**11A. STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY RE CAROLWOOD LANE AND SINGINGWOOD DRIVE**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Manager** and the **City Attorney** that City Council continue the state of local emergency, proclaimed March 2, 2001 for properties located on Carolwood Lane and Singingwood Drive.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**11B. AUTHORIZATION TO INVEST IN THE LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Treasurer** that City Council adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Treasurer and Deputy City Treasurer to deposit and withdraw monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) in the State Treasury of the State of California for the purpose of investment.

City Treasurer Barnett stated that the City has been doing business with the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) for a number of years and that a new resolution naming the current City Treasurer and Deputy City Treasurer was needed authorizing them to deposit or withdraw monies.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2003-178**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND  
UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER AS AN  
INVESTMENT VEHICLE ALTERNATIVE

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2003-178. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**11C. REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATION FOR SENIOR MECHANICAL AND PLUMBING INSPECTOR**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Human Resources Director** and the **Civil Service Commission** that City Council approve the revised and re-titled class specification for Senior Mechanical and Plumbing Inspector. The **Human Resources Director** recommends City Council adopt an amendment to the Resolution governing employees represented by the Engineers to implement the title change.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 179**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2000-129 SETTING FORTH CHANGES  
REGARDING HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR  
EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE ENGINEERS

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2003-179. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

### **11D. TAXICAB FRANCHISE ORDINANCE**

#### **Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **Finance Director** that City Council adopt an Ordinance adding a new Article 16 of Chapter 3 of Division 3 entitled Taxicab Franchises. The **Finance Director** further recommends that City Council approve a summary of the ordinance for publication.

Assistant Finance Director Flewellyn stated that the proposed Taxicab Franchise Ordinance includes many of the provisions in the existing Ordinance and incorporates pertinent franchise and contractual language. He noted that if the Ordinance is approved, the second reading will be on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Ordinance will take effect 30 days later, after which staff will bring forward a proposal to repeal the existing Taxicab Ordinance. He reported that the Request for Proposal (RFP) for taxicab franchises was released on November 13, 2003; that staff has scheduled a conference with potential bidders on December 1, 2003; and that proposals are due on December 30, 2003.

Chad Lindholm, Account Manager for Clean Energy, 3020 Old Ranch Parkway, Irvine, noted that his company operates a number of natural gas fuel stations in the area. He reported that natural gas taxicabs run ten times cleaner than gas-burning models; that currently there is a fleet of 500 natural gas taxis operating in Los Angeles County; and that the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) offers incentives which bring the cost of a new natural gas taxi down to \$10,000. He stated that in order to promote the use of natural gas taxis in Torrance, his company was willing to provide an additional \$2,000 for each new natural gas taxi placed on the road in Torrance and to build a state-of-the-art fueling station using \$250,000 in grant funds and \$500,000 of the company's own capital. He outlined the benefit to the City as follows: 1) new clean air taxis would be on the streets; 2) there would be a new state-of-the-art fueling station with no expenditure of City funds; 3) the station would help Torrance meet AQMD requirements for public vehicles; and 4) private companies and consumers who buy natural gas vehicles would also have use of the station. He acknowledged that a prior station in Torrance ceased operations because of lack of usage, but suggested that a large fleet of natural gas taxis would allow the station to stand on its own with only minimal usage by the City's fleet. He requested that the Council delay action on the Ordinance for two weeks so that he could further discuss the proposal.

Mayor Walker and Councilmembers expressed an interest in learning more about Clean Energy's proposal.

City Attorney Fellows noted that the issue of fuel efficiency is not mentioned in the proposed Ordinance and recommended that this topic be discussed at the conference with potential bidders on December 1 and that staff report back to the Council on December 16. Assistant Finance Director Flewellyn concurred with City Attorney Fellows' recommendation.

Councilmember Scotto noted that the RFP calls for at least 5% of the fleet to be ultra-low emission vehicles within 12 months and that there was nothing to preclude having a greater percentage.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 3551**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
ADDING A NEW ARTICLE 16 OF CHAPTER 3 OF DIVISION 3 OF THE  
TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE ENTITLED TAXICAB FRANCHISES

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3551. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to approve an ordinance summary for publication. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

#### **11E. SAFETY MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES AND MANAGEMENT AND EXECUTIVE EMPLOYEES PAY RESOLUTIONS**

##### **Recommendation**

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council:

- 1) Adopt a Safety Management Resolution modifying the salaries of the Police Captains and Fire Division Chief; and
- 2) Adopt an amendment to the Executive and Management pay Resolution, amending the reference point and top of the range for the Chief of Police.

Assistant to the City Manager Keane stated that on November 18, 2003, the Council approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Torrance Police Officers Association (TPOA) and that the proposed modifications were necessary to keep salaries for Police Captains, Fire Division Chief and the Police Chief consistent with the changes in the TPOA MOU.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2003-180**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
SETTING FORTH WAGES, HOURS, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR  
SAFETY MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES AND REPEALING RESOLUTION  
NO. 2002-85

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2003-180. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2003-181**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2003-98 SETTING FORTH CHANGES  
REGARDING HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR  
EXECUTIVE AND MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2003-181. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**15. SECOND READING ORDINANCES**

**15A. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3549**

**ORDINANCE NO. 3549**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO RECLASSIFY CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2080 WASHINGTON AVENUE FROM ML (LIMITED MANUFACTURING) TO R-3 (MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT)

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3549. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**15B. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3550**

**ORDINANCE NO. 3550**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING DIVISION 9 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE TO RECLASSIFY CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3864 REDONDO BEACH BOULEVARD FROM C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT) TO R-3 (MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT)

**MOTION:** Councilmember Lieu moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 3550. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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The Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 8:05 p.m. to 8:07 p.m.

**16. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**16A.** Councilmember Lieu commented on attending the Pegasus Awards at which ExxonMobil awarded grants to several outstanding teachers from the Torrance Unified School District.

**16B.** Councilmember Lieu noted his attendance at the Torrance Certified Farmers' Market dinner and commended the volunteers who work at the market on Tuesdays and Saturdays for making it one of the best in the west.

**16C.** Councilmember Lieu also noted his attendance at a Jaycees celebration dinner.

**16D.** Councilmember Lieu wished everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

**16E.** Councilmember Mauno echoed wishes for a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

**16F.** Councilmember McIntyre noted that two architectural awards were given to buildings in Torrance, an award of merit for unique design was given to the certified green building on the Toyota campus, which is made up of 67% recycled material, and an award for public interest and concern was given to the newly renovated shopping center that includes Kohl's department store.

**16G.** Councilmember McIntyre also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**16H.** Councilmember Nowatka echoed wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving and a wonderful and safe holiday season.

**16I.** Councilmember Nowatka echoed comments on the ExxonMobil Pegasus Awards, stating that it was a wonderful event.

**16J.** Councilmember Nowatka asked staff to look into the possibility of coordinating volunteer programs through the Community Services Commission.

**16K.** Councilmember Scotto echoed comments on the Pegasus Awards, noting that there were 102 applications and 67 awards.

**16L.** Councilmember Scotto stated that the Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation production of the Beatles was a fantastic show, noting that it was sold out 3 weeks in advance.

**16M.** Councilmember Scotto echoed comments on the Farmers' Market dinner, commending the hardworking volunteers.

**16N.** Councilmember Scotto expressed wishes that City Manager Jackson, watching the meeting from home, would get well soon.

**16O.** Councilmember Scotto reminded the public to drive safely during the holidays.

**16P.** Councilmember Witkowsky commended ExxonMobil for enriching the learning experience of Torrance students through the funding of the Pegasus Awards.

**16Q.** Councilmember Witkowsky echoed comments on the Farmers' Market dinner where seniors Russ Nolte and Ron Littlefair were honored for their volunteer work.

**16R.** Councilmember Witkowsky wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, noting that we all have so much to be thankful for, and expressed the hope that soldiers fighting for our freedom overseas would return home safely to their loved ones.

**16S.** Councilmember Witkowsky wished her daughter a Happy Birthday.

**16T.** Mayor Walker also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and agreed that there is much to be thankful for living in this community.

**17. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:16 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, December 2, 2003, at 6:00 p.m. for the regular meeting commencing in the Council Chambers.

Attest:

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Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Torrance

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sue Herbers, CMC  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on January 20, 2004

Sue Sweet  
Recording Secretary

City Council  
November 25, 2003